



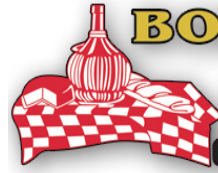
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# N. A. Selectman Under Fire

North Andover  
Selectman  
Chris Nobile is  
under fire for  
his residency  
and being on a  
public board in  
Maine.

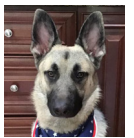
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## VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

### Lawrence's Veterans' Services Officer Jamie Melendez

John Cuddy

VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

Lawrence Massachusetts  
Director, Veterans' Services, Sargent  
First Class Jaime L. Melendez Jr. US  
Army-Retired, was born in Lawrence  
Massachusetts. He attended the local  
Lawrence Public schools and finished  
high school at his parent's home on  
the island of Puerto Rico. He has an  
associate degree from Central Texas

University. Jaime served two years with  
the US Army National Guard in Puerto  
Rico prior to entering active duty from  
Massachusetts on November 9, 1988.  
He retired from the Army on August 1,  
2011, with a total of twenty-five years  
of service. Meeting with him and his  
staff, they quickly shifted the focus from  
Sargent First Class Jamie Melendez's  
lengthy service in the US Army, to an  
event, being put on by the Merrimack

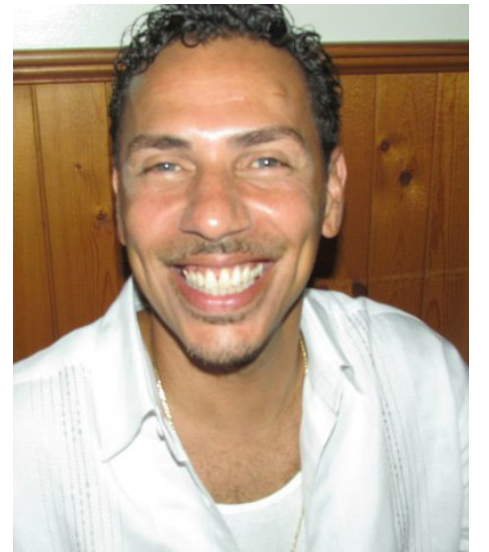
Valley Community Service Corps,  
spearheaded by Director Guy Terry  
Kelley, and coming up on Friday August  
19th at 6pm at the Lawrence Veterans  
Stadium honoring US Marine Sargent  
Johanny Rosario Pichardo who died at  
Kabul Airport.

"Lawrence, MA native, Sergeant  
Johanny Rosario Pichardo enlisted in  
the US Marine Corp and served with the  
Naval Amphibious Force, Task Force  
51/5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade;  
Pichardo was assigned to assist in the  
Afghanistan evacuation efforts.

Immediately upon arriving in Kabul,  
Sgt. Rosario-Pichardo volunteered to  
work a security assignment that only  
women could do in Afghanistan – screen  
the women and children attempting to  
flee the country. Pichardo lost her life  
assisting two Afghan women who were  
being trampled by the pack of people  
outside the airport gates, when a suicide  
bomber detonated his explosive belt.

Sgt. Rosario Pichardo, twenty-five,  
was killed, along with twelve other  
American service members, and 169  
Afghan civilians in the initial blast and  
the gunfire that followed. Pichardo's  
commanding officer, Capt. Pascal  
DeMeo, remembers Pichardo's final  
words before she attempted to help the  
women on the ground- "They need me,  
sir."

It is estimated that her actions in  
addition to the actions of the other



servicewomen working screening in the  
evacuation saved over 124,000 lives  
in America's largest airlift operation  
ever". (From the Foundation for Women  
Warriors)

While serving in the National Guard  
and Regular Army, Jamie learned that  
the keys to leadership was instilling  
"purpose, direction, and motivation," in  
the young men and women serving in  
the US Army. Jamie said this was easy to  
do with elite troops such as paratroopers  
and Rangers, but much harder with the  
average soldier. He credits the senior  
noncommissioned officers he served  
under, with developing him into the  
leader he is today.

While defending our Nation around  
HERO: PAGE 21



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# How Much Do Democrats Really Care About Latinos?

For years, the Democrats who are elected to run America’s biggest cities have aided and abetted illegal aliens by making their cities “sanctuary cities” that will not deport illegals.

They advocate open borders in the name of the “children” and offer free, taxpayer-funded services to attract more illegal aliens to this country.

Anyone who objects to this is, of course, called “racist” and portrayed as evil.

Their goal in doing all this is to replace and overwhelm the number of white middle class voters who no longer vote for Democrats, with illegal immigrants who

will. They call it “the great replacement” and they have been quite open about it. That is, until they are called on it and then they deny their own words calling it a “conspiracy theory.”

All the while they ship illegal aliens to Republican suburbs to dilute the number of white voters.

With the influx of millions of illegals from all over the world funneling over the southern border into Texas, (a Republican state) Governor Greg Abbott is fighting back and forcing these open-border Democrats to bear the burden of their own policies. Abbott is busing thousands

of illegal aliens to New York, D.C., Los Angeles, and other Democrat-controlled sanctuary cities.

Given how “pro-Latino” these Democrats pretend to be, you would think their sanctuary city mayors would be happy about all this. You’d think Democrats would welcome these poor Latino immigrants with open arms.

But you would be wrong about that.

Now, these very same Democrats who call others “racist” for opposing illegal immigration, are publicly complaining that they DON’T want all these Latino, illegal aliens in their cities.

How about that?

They are all for illegal immigration as long as those immigrants don’t come to their neighborhoods. They are all for open borders until those who cross the border invade their city. We have to wonder if N.Y. Mayor Adams, D.C. Mayor Bowser, and the other Democrats are racist, as they NOW publicly condemn the overflow of Latinos into their communities.

One thing for sure, now that they have to live with the consequences of their failed policies and anti-American agendas, they are turning away Latinos by the thousands. ◇

# Major Reforms of Veteran Care & Soldiers’ Homes Finalized

**Linda Dean Campbell**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The Massachusetts Legislature unanimously sent to Governor Baker a final bill that will comprehensively reform Veteran care in our Commonwealth – which includes, but goes far beyond, major reforms to how our Soldiers’ Homes are governed and operated.

As lead sponsor of this legislation alongside Senator Mike Rush, a fellow Veteran, it was well documented that I voted “present” indicating serious concern when the bill first came before the Massachusetts House in February. I believed that the bill brought forth by House leadership was fundamentally different than the original bill Senator Rush and I filed. Our original bill was based on recommendations resulting from the legislative investigation we co-chaired – which were widely supported by Veterans groups, long-term care experts, and policymakers.

I was proud to support the final bill that is now before Governor Baker. It stays true to our original bill and addresses both the immediate and underlying causes that led to the tragic COVID-19 outbreak at the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home. Our Soldiers’ Homes

must be governed with crystal clear accountability, responsibility, and authority – and with a clearly defined chain of command. That is what this legislation accomplishes.

Very importantly, this bill elevates the Secretary of Veterans’ Services to a true secretariat-level position with a direct line of communication to the Governor. This is great news for our entire Veteran community. Further, we outline a clear chain of command from the superintendent of each Soldiers’ Home to the Secretary of Veterans’ Services to the Governor.

The bill also requires the superintendent of each Soldiers’ Home to be a licensed nursing home administrator with experience – and establishes a robust evaluation process for hiring superintendents. The Secretary of Veterans’ Services will have the clear authority to hire and (if necessary) fire each superintendent. This is how we ensure qualified leadership at our Homes.

Further, the bill creates a Veterans’ Homes Council whose job is to provide recommendations regarding policies and needed improvements at the Homes – and its members will include diverse representatives of the Veteran community; experts in clinical care, labor relations, and business management; and

local representation for each Home, with a mission to make recommendations for Veteran care across the Commonwealth.

The bill creates sound oversight mechanisms – including inspections and licensure by the Department of Public Health, certification by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and an ombudsperson to whom residents of the Homes, their families, and staff can confidentially submit concerns to seek a timely resolution.

Finally, the bill establishes a new independent Office of the Veteran Advocate – which will look out for the well-being of all Veterans in the Commonwealth and can publicly raise concerns or needed improvements related to Veteran care and services.

Governor Baker initially returned the final bill to the Legislature with a few additions – namely, to ensure the incoming Governor is the one to staff the Office of the Veteran Advocate and to ensure a smooth transition as the Department of Veterans’ Services becomes its own agency directly under the new Governor. These additions were received favorably by the Legislature.

We cannot legislate the character of a leader – but we can require transparency, excellent standards of care, and – most importantly – a clear chain of command,

a clear line of communication, and accountability and responsibility at all levels of leadership at our Soldiers’ Homes. This bill requires – not asks for – these pillars of good governance. By elevating the Secretary of Veterans’ Services and creating an independent Office of the Veteran Advocate, care and services for all Veterans statewide will receive renewed attention. This is deep, necessary reform – and our Veterans and their families deserving nothing less.

Here is what local Veterans had to say about this news:

“I am confident this legislation is the right approach to hold the Commonwealth responsible for Veterans by establishing a concise chain of command, inspections, and accountability standards,” said Ralph Basiliere, Chairman of the Haverhill Vietnam Veterans Memorial Commission, and former Director of Veterans’ Services for the City of Haverhill. “This is a good day for vulnerable Veterans in Massachusetts. The grief-stricken families can know their loved ones didn’t die in vain.”

“We are most grateful for the hard work and diligence by Representative Campbell and Senator Rush, and many

CAMPBELL: PAGE 15



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The Valley Patriot is not responsible for, nor do we necessarily share the opinions of columnists and contributors that are published in the paper. Columns, by definition, are opinion pieces.

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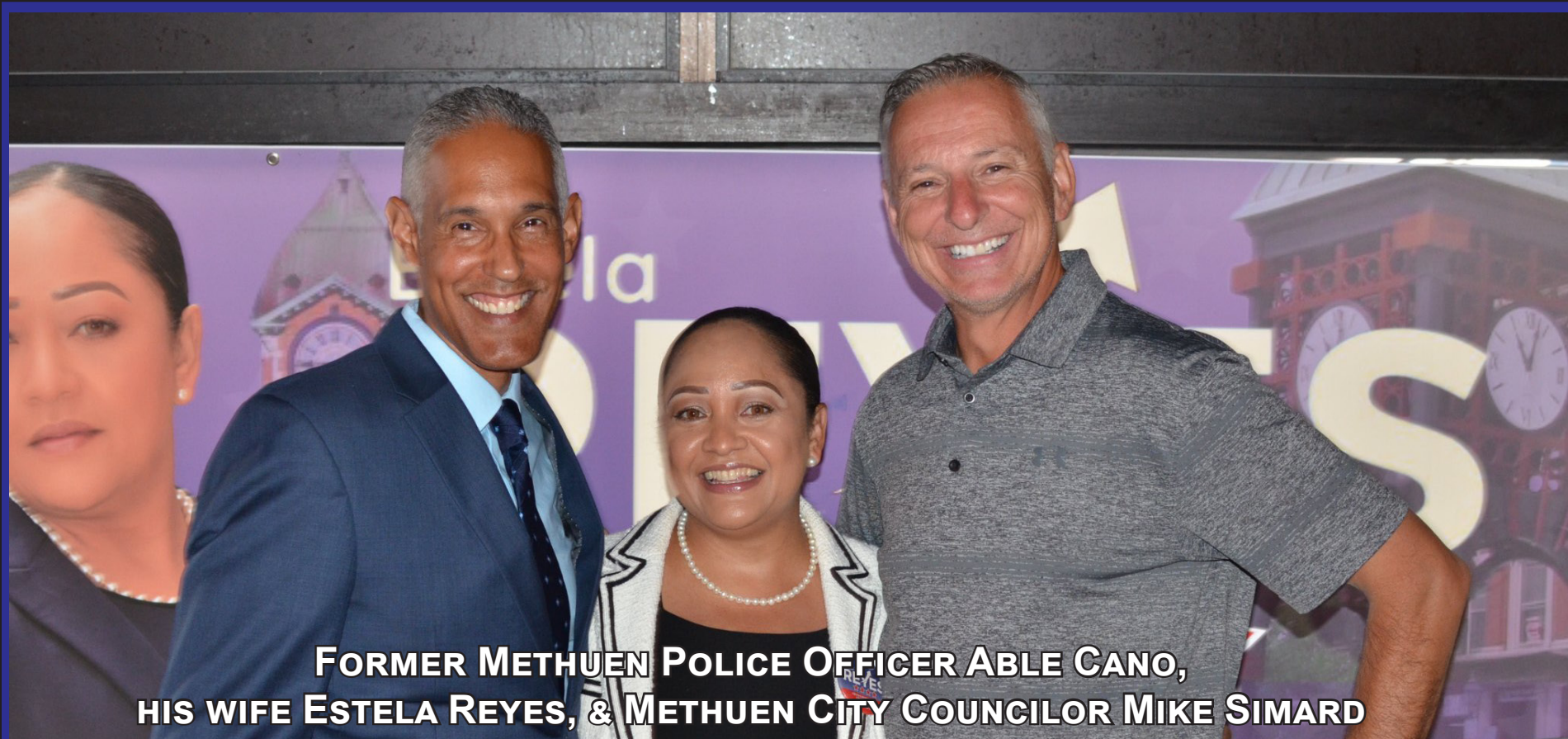
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**President/Publisher:** Tom Duggan, Jr.  
**SALES: (978) 771-4091**

**Corrections:** Please contact the editors at [valleypatriot@aol.com](mailto:valleypatriot@aol.com)

The Valley Patriot can be found in more than 800 locations in 48 communities in Massachusetts and NH.





FORMER METHUEN POLICE OFFICER ABLE CANO,  
HIS WIFE ESTELA REYES, & METHUEN CITY COUNCILOR MIKE SIMARD

LOOK WHO SUPPORTS  
**ESTELA REYES**  
IN METHUEN FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**ESTELA REYES WILL HELP US IN METHUEN!  
UNLIKE HER OPPONENT, ESTELA IS A HOMEOWNER, A TAXPAYER,  
AND WILL HELP US GET STATE FUNDING FOR POLICE & FIRE!**

**Methuen City Councilor Mike Simard, Former Methuen City Councilor  
Ron Marsan, State Rep. Frank Moran, State Senator Barry Finegold,  
Former Methuen Mayor & MA Secretary of Energy, Sharon Pollard**

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2 INGLEWOOD TER, METHUEN**

**JUDITH VERPLANCK-ELLIOT  
14 ORCHARD ST.**

**JAMES DAYTON  
1 CREST DRIVE**

**CORY MARCINUK  
28 OAK KNOLL RD.**

**MELISSA TIERNEY  
5 CREST DRIVE**

**CHARLES SARCIONE  
4 CREST DRIVE**

**RAYMOND P. DESPRES II  
20 MAGUIRE STREET**

**LINDA MARIE SOUCY  
10 KIRK STREET,**

**JENNIFER ELKHOURY  
50 MILK STREET**

**ROSALIE FOWLER  
12 CLOVER STREET**

**MARY WHOLLEY  
28 EASTBROOK PLACE**

**PAUL L MCGOVERN  
2 ARBOR GLEN LN.**

**EILEEN BOLDUC  
3 LOUISE AVE, METHUEN**

**WILLIAM CASTRO**



STATE SENATE DEBATE AUG.  
25th on PAYING ATTENTION!

State Senate candidates Eunice Zeigler, Pavel Payano, and Doris Rodriquez will be engaging in a real debate on August 25th at 2pm at the Studio 21 Podcast Cafe in Salem NH. The video of the debate will be aired on The Valley Patriot's Facebook Page, YouTube page and the audio will be available on iTunes, iHeartRadio, and all other podcast platforms. To sponsor this debate please email us at valleypatriot@aol.com.

N. ANDOVER SELECTMAN  
NOBILE'S BOARD APPOINTMENT  
IN MAINE

While most people in North Andover are all worked up about the fact that Selectman Chris Nobile may no longer live in town while continuing to serve on the Board of Selectmen, the real issue here is the fact that Nobile is a selectman in North Andover while serving on a planning committee in Ogunquit, Maine. So, even if Nobile did legitimately still live in town, he is still unavailable for his constituents if they have a problem in town because he is too busy working for the planning committee in the Town of Ogunquit in Maine. That alone means he should not be on the board, but we have yet to hear any elected official call for his resignation, despite the fact that ALL of his colleagues knew about this months ago.


CONSIDER VOTING FOR  
CANDIDATES WHO CARED  
ENOUGH ABOUT YOU TO  
ADVERTISE

Some local politicians think that not advertising in The Valley Patriot is a slap in the face to me because, for whatever reason they just didn't like me. That's fine, I get paid the same whether they advertise or not. But, by snubbing me, they are actually snubbing you, my 20,000 readers. This newspaper is not about me it's about you. It's about the readers and the information they need to make a decision at election time without the filtered narratives of a newspaper editorial board. So, if you are reading this newspaper, take a look at who cared enough about you to advertise their campaign and then look at who did NOT advertise. Those who did NOT care about the readers of The Valley Patriot should not get your vote on September 6th

KENDRYS VASQUES SUPPORTS  
METHUEN CANDIDATE

More than a dozen people have called The Valley Patriot office in the last month or so to let us know that former Lawrence City Councilor Kendrys Vasquez has been seen helping Methuen candidate "Slippin' Jimmy McCarty" in his campaign for state representative against Lawrence City Councilor Estela

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK



Candidate for State Rep. Estela Reyes, Methuen Village resident Anna Sullivan, and Former Lawrence Mayor Mike Sullivan at Methuen Village, where both Sullivans endorsed Estela Reyes for State Representative in the September 6th Primary.

Reyes. Now, how about that? This guy was acting mayor of Lawrence, ran for mayor and lost and is now supporting Methuen candidates over Lawrence candidates. So much for Kendrys caring about Lawrence and defending Lawrence residents. Maybe when this election is over Kendrys will Move to Methuen like so many other former elected officials have done once losing an election in Lawrence.

PAUL TUCKER FOR D.A.  
Perhaps the most important race on the September 6th ballot in Massachusetts is the contest for District Attorney of Essex County. With current D.A. Jon Blodgett stepping down this contest comes down to a candidate who is a former police chief vs. a current defense attorney. So, if I knew nothing else at all about either candidate you know I would be voting for the former police chief over a guy who defends criminals for a living. But former Salem, MA Police Chief Paul Tucker is more than just a former police chief trying to become a prosecutor. HE is a state representative, is FBI academy trained, and does not support his Democratic Party's obsession with advocating for criminals and attacking police. "No, I do not support the defund the police movement," Tucker told me on the Paying Attention Podcast. "We need more cops on the streets to defend victims of crime. The only people who benefit from defunding police are the criminals."

Now when was the last time you heard a Democrat say something like that? Tucker also promises to prosecute people who file false 209-A (restraining orders) and false police reports. That's something Jon Blodgett promised 22 years ago and never followed through with. The Valley Patriot will be holding

Tucker to his word if he is elected. I say he deserves your vote.

DEVERS V. PAULINO  
Marcos Devers is running for reelection this year with a news district that includes neighborhoods in Methuen. Devers is facing a formidable challenger in the September 6th primary in Francisco Paulino. Paulino is a Methuen resident with a business in Lawrence and has the endorsement of Lawrence Mayor Brian DePena making this race a lot closer than people think. While conventional wisdom says Devers is the front runner in this race because he's the incumbent, he did lose once before in a primary to Juana Mattias because people who support Marcos thought he was going to have an easy win. For his part, Devers learned from that loss and isn't taking anything for granted. He is working his district and knocking on doors as though he was a first-time candidate and he seems to be having no problem raising money this year, unlike previous years. I say this race is too close to call despite the experts predicting a big win for Devers.

HAMILTON'S EASY WIN  
Ryan Hamilton is running for state rep. to fill the vacant seat by Linda Dean Campbell, who is not running for reelection this year. Hamilton has no opposition in the September 6th primary, but I am hoping that at least ONE local Republican runs a write in campaign in the primary. I like Ryan and I actually hope he wins. But I don't believe anyone

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should run unopposed. Candidates with no opposition don't knock doors, they don't buy advertising touting their experience or political positions and that robs the voters. Honestly, I think every one of these local races should have a Republican write-in candidate in the primary so that every candidate has an opponent in November.

SAVE YOUR HATE MAIL  
Before you start sending me hate mail about the ad on page 30, remember that The Valley Patriot publishes political ads that are paid for by either candidates or those endorsing candidates. We have no control over the content of those ads unless they are legally slanderous. The ad on page 30 is not, therefore if you have any hate mail to send, please send it to those who paid for the ad.

JOE FINN IS EVERYWHERE!  
Republican candidate for state representative in North Andover, Joe Finn is EVERYWHERE! His district goes from Ipswich to North Andover and every town in between. Our Valley Patriot delivery drivers report that they have seen hundreds of lawn signs in North Andover, Boxford, Groveland, Georgetown and even West Newbury. By contrast we have yet to get a report of one sign for Finn's Democrat

NEXT PAGE



Mike Sullivan  
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE  
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opponent in this race. THIS Is the race to watch in November as Finn very well could be one of the few Republicans who pulls off a win in final November state elections.

CHRIS DEMPSEY’S ALL TALK ON WOMEN’S ISSUES

Why is Democrat candidate for State Auditor Chris Dempsey so anti-woman? It’s bad enough that he has lectured us all about empowering women as he tries to defeat a woman to gain political power. But now we have learned that Dempsey voted to protect Non-Disclosure agreements for elected officials in sexual harassment/assault cases. That’s not a good way to show liberal women at the base of the Democratic Party that you want to “empower” them. And while we are on the subject of mass hypocrisy, if Dempsey is in favor of empowering women and favoring women in all hiring, government grants, and government contracts, why doesn’t he just step aside and let the woman running against him (Diana DiZoglio) take the job as State Auditor? How can the base of the Democrat Party vote for a guy like this in a Massachusetts primary? If Democrats elect Chris Dempsey on September 6th, it will be further proof that they only pay lip service to their liberal mantras on “leveling the playing field” and “empowering women”. We will be watching this race very closely!

MIKE DOWNS CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT IN METHUEN

On Oct. 8, at 10AM, Methuen veteran Mike Downs will be hosting a Corn Hole Tournament at the Methuen VFW to raise money for our local Veterans and Clear Path New England. Mike is looking for items to raffle and a sponsor for each of the 8 Corn Hole Sets to help defer the cost to run the event.

- The cost is \$50 per team and includes:
- 1 free drink token
  - 1 raffle ticket
  - Cash Prizes for Top Teams
  - Raffle Items from Local Businesses
  - Coffee and Donuts

To Participate, Donate or be a Sponsor please email Mike Downs at [captmd71@gmail.com](mailto:captmd71@gmail.com)

ARTS & INCLUSION FOR THE DISABLED

The mission of Change the World of People with Disabilities (CEMDPCD) organization is to advocate for people and families with members who have disabilities.

A goal is to educate the community that our children deserve to be included in everything. We have invited these children and young people with disabilities to display their art as part of

the exhibit “Art and inclusion.” This exhibit is on display at the Buttonwoods Museum, Haverhill, MA from August 2 until August 31 during regular museum hours: Tuesday through Saturday 10a to 5p and Sunday 12-5p. Admission is free.

Exhibit Reception – Saturday, August 13 from 1 to 3 p.m. Light refreshments will be available. This exhibit is sponsored by a grant from the Cummings Foundation.

For more information, please contact the Buttonwoods Museum at [info@buttonwoods.org](mailto:info@buttonwoods.org) or 978.374.4626

GENERAL DUNFORD COMING TO LAWRENCE

General Joseph F. Dunford Jr. will be the keynote speaker at the Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo Memorial Mural dedication, August 19, 2022, 6:00pm , Lawrence Veterans Memorial Stadium. General Dunford is a retired United States Marine Corps four-star general, who served as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the nation’s highest-ranking military officer, and the principal military advisor to the President, Secretary of Defense, and National Security Council from October 1, 2015, until September 30, 2019.

Trinitarian Congregational Church North Andover Free Summer Concert, August 21, 4-6 PM

TCC will host 4EverFab, a popular and talented Beatles Tribute Band that covers all of the Beatles’ music styles, from their original hits to the later ones, as if they wrote them. They’ll take you through the mellow (In my Life), the harmonies (Paperback Writer), the rock (Back in the USSR) and everything in-between.

There is no need to describe these songs because you already know them by heart. When Beatles song titles are mentioned, most of us can hear them in our head. Frequently opening with “She Loves You,” the two-hour set will showcase many more favorites like Penny Lane, Strawberry Fields, Yellow Submarine, Hey Jude, and A Hard Day’s Night.

An evening of Beatles hits performed by a top-notch Beatles tribute band like 4EverFab is a great way for you, your family, and friends to experience a great summer evening concert.

These veteran musicians and singers have a passion for everything Beatles and want their audience to have as much fun as they do. So, come on down on August 21 at 4:00 PM.

Tell your friends and family . . . all are welcome. Be sure to bring a chair. This FREE concert will be outdoors on the grounds of TCC. We hope to see you there! You may even find yourself singing along! ♡

EYE ON DRACUT

Public Records About Tony Archinski Warrant Scrutiny

By Brian Genest

VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

Have you seen the public records about Tony Archinski’s employment as a Dracut police officer? There’s a good chance you haven’t. And an even better chance he’d like to keep it that way.

Ironically, Archinski brought his conduct into the town spotlight in July: When the Board of Selectmen’s majority let him know why they were going to vote down his proposal for a so-called code of conduct—a bad, political idea that would have polluted town government with more personal politics, new political penalties, and ongoing punitive payback—Archinski bullied two of his female colleagues about their professional careers. (See: Tony Archinski Should Police His Own Ironic Conduct, The Valley Patriot, July 2022)

Talk about hypocrisy: During a discussion about proper conduct, Archinski raises the private-sector, professional careers of his colleagues while his own public-sector career as a town police officer is currently a matter of public discussion and scrutiny. Worthy scrutiny.

In January, resident Kevin O’Brien submitted a public records request asking for documents related to Archinski’s employment as a police officer. In response, O’Brien got hundreds of pages of documents, which he published online and provided to the media and producers of television shows at Dracut Access Television, including me. Among the public records released from Archinski’s file were internal investigations, disciplinary actions, settlement agreements and other documents.

Many of the documents included redacted information; information about a half-dozen items were withheld entirely. While redactions include the names of victims and witness, as well as other details, the documents tell the story.

In one instance, Archinski was accused of sending an email in 1998 described by Police Chief Peter Bartlett as “offensive and profane.” The email was printed and posted on the bulletin board in the police department and

resulted in a complaint against Archinski from a fellow officer, saying it was discriminatory. The documents about the internal investigation, including officer statements, have been produced, but the alleged profane email itself has been withheld.

Other documents released were about two disciplinary issues: violating the police department’s shotgun policy and what is referred to as “The Lo Kai incident,” where Archinski failed to properly handle an assault and battery while working a paid detail. As a result of the shotgun policy violation in 2004, Archinski received a two-day suspension without pay for insubordination and violating the general orders of the Dracut Police Department.

The internal investigation report questioned Archinski’s truthfulness.


Also in 2004, as a result of the “Lo Kai incident,” Archinski received a two-day suspension without pay for failing to properly handle an assault and battery. The internal investigation found four of the allegations in the citizen complaint to either be unfounded or unsustained because of inadequate evidence. However, investigators found the fifth allegation—that Archinski failed to provide any type of medical assistance to the victim of an assault and battery after they had suffered obvious physical injuries—to be valid and supported by sufficient evidence.

In their report, investigators said, “Quite simply put, there was little if any action taken. Lt. Archinski’s failure to address the following constitutes a failure to act appropriately as a police officer in this situation.” The report lists seven issues, including never identifying the suspects or witnesses at the scene, never submitting a report documenting what he observed, never informing police department personnel after his detail was completed that a fight occurred and not taking any type of police action in response to an assault and battery that occurred in his presence.

Investigators said Archinski’s actions demonstrated a total lack of effort to investigate the incident that occurred. “The investigators have concluded



ARCHINSKI: PAGE 15



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for STATE SENATE

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# Supporting Foster Parents in MA

Hello Valley Patriot Readers,

Today in Massachusetts, there are more than 3,000 children in foster care with a goal of adoption. With waitlists booming, countless children are waiting three or more years to be adopted.

Playing a truly invaluable role in this process are foster parents, providing a safe and stable environment for children who, due to a variety of reasons, cannot be with their biological parents. Children who have been uprooted from their homes need a place where they can feel secure. In all too many instances, they have suffered abuse and/or neglect and have no idea what a loving home feels like. Foster parents help them learn what it is like to eat, sleep, and play in a place that is safe.

In Massachusetts, the rights and responsibilities for foster parents are spread out among an expansive set of laws, regulations and policies through The Department of Children and Families (DCF) that all too often leave foster parents feeling confused and unfairly treated.

That is why I am so grateful the Senate recently passed legislation I co-sponsored, An Act establishing a foster parents' bill of rights, designed to provide foster parents with the resources and supports they need to provide for children in their care.

Specifically, the legislation places into state law that foster parents have the right to pertinent training; information about the child to be placed in their home; access to social workers and family resource workers; the opportunity to communicate with professionals who work with the child; and be updated on relevant changes in policies, procedures, and law.

While many of these rights are already required elsewhere in



Massachusetts law, by recognizing these as positive rights possessed by foster parents, rather than mere obligations for state agencies to uphold, the bill would ensure these standards are followed without exception in interactions between the state and foster parents. A copy of this bill of rights would be provided to foster parents to help support them as they support our children in need.

*If you have any questions on this or any other issue, please feel free to contact me anytime via email at Diana.Dizio@masenate.gov or phone at 978-984-7747.*

Yours in service,  
Diana ♦



Republican Candidate for Governor, Geoff Diehl appeared on the Paying Attention! Podcast with Tom Duggan at the Studio21 Podcast Cafe in Salem N.H.

## Deihl: Rehire State Workers Fired for not Taking COVID Vaccine

Republican Candidate for Governor Geoff Diehl says if he is elected, he will rehire every state worker who was fired for refusing to take the COVID vaccine.

“And I will tell you this, I will find every state worker who was in on those decisions who thought that was a good idea, and fire every single one of them.”

Diehl made the comments on the Paying Attention Podcast with Tom Duggan last month (iHeartRadio, iTunes, YouTube).

Diehl pointed out that the state has a nearly \$3.8 billion surplus and that some of that money needs to go to opioid addiction and prevention, housing homeless veterans, and hiring more police officers.

With Massachusetts Republican Governor Charlie Baker not running for reelection, Diehl first has to get past Wrentham businessman Chris Doughty in the primary. Asked how he plans on beating Doughty who is outspending him on the campaign trail, Diehl says he’s not worried.

“It doesn’t matter how much money Chris Doughty spends; Republican voters want someone with a track record. I’ve been working the Republican ranks for a long time, serving in office, working with local people in my district. I have a lot of folks out there who support the work I’ve been doing. I think those grassroots folks are going to be the ones having their voices heard on primary day.”

Asked how he plans on beating Maura Healey in a state like Massachusetts with Donald Trump’s endorsement, Diehl said it won’t matter.

“I’m looking forward to facing Maura

Healey. As the sitting Attorney General a recent WCVB poll shows 46% approval rating. The other big number to look at is, 60% of Massachusetts voters are undecided right now. And you know in a state like Massachusetts if 60% are undecided that means they are not voting for the Democrat.”

“This is one of those cycles like when Scott Brown ran and he won,” he added.

“After the pandemic people started to realize that the government has taken over too much of our lives and they are out of control. I think there’s going to be a lot of pushback on that.”

“Maura Healey is a big Government person I am an independent, personal accountability type person who owns a small business. You know, we believe government needs to provide services, provide them transparently and cost effectively, but they shouldn’t be in control of everything in our life.”

“When Maura Healey said she was proud to block two natural gas pipelines coming into Massachusetts, what she did was drive up the price of home heating oil. That’s going to make it unaffordable to seniors.”

“I lead the charge to stop indexing the gas tax to inflation, can you imagine if I hadn’t gotten that done in 2014? We just found out today that the inflation rate is about 9.1% or higher, we would be paying California gas prices right now.”

Diehl said that he would use some of the excess state revenue to reimburse cities and towns for excise taxes so people will buy more cars in the state.

“I want to suspend the excise tax in Massachusetts.” ♦

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Dr. Mark Silvers' primary focus is to provide an exceptional patient experience. He utilizes technology, like intraoral photography and 3D imaging, to make the most accurate diagnosis possible and provide effective treatment solutions. For more than 15 years, he practiced in a multi-specialty practice and taught as an Associate Professor at the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine. He also served as the team dentist to the Boston Red Sox. In 2008, Dr. Silvers worked with colleagues at the Harvard Business School to discover more efficient ways to practice dentistry with fewer complications, better outcomes, and greater patient satisfaction.



**Ana Mateo, DMD**  
Dr. Mateo prides herself in her attentiveness to the needs of her patients and providing positive patient experiences while also providing them with quality comprehensive care. She is excited to join the team at Methuen Family Dentistry and to welcome you to the practice and help you reach your dental goals! Dr. Mateo attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts where she received her Bachelor's in Chemistry. She then completed her dental training at the Boston University School of Dental Medicine where she graduated magna cum laude. Following graduation, she completed a general practice residency at the University of Washington in Seattle.



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BENEATH THE SURFACE

Shifting Politics,  
Unchanging Truth

Paul Murano  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Political parties, like all secular entities, are constantly changing. This is why it is not wise to identify deeply with any particular party. A quick look at recent American history illustrates this.

When FDR brokered the New Deal in the 1930s, the Democratic Party became the Party of the immigrant and the blue collar worker, while Republicans were seen as favoring the rich and powerful establishment. Later, in post-World War II America, family values were championed – not by Republicans, but by Democrats. And in the 1960s, the civil rights movement found a home in the Democratic Party, and it seemed like the party of the future.

In the 60s and 70s, the term “Rockefeller Republican” signified the typical Republican that was economically conservative but socially liberal. Today, we call them RINOs.

Most Republicans during this time period were seen as supporting abortion – like Barry Goldwater, Gerald Ford, and George H.W. Bush. Most Democrats, on the other hand, claimed to be pro-life, like Ted Kennedy, Joe Biden, and Al Gore.

All of this was soon to flip.

When hell conspired to merge the women’s liberation movement with the sexual revolution, the two political parties began to change faces. During the 1970s, Democrats fell like dominoes to the abortion lobby.

It was 1980 when the nation had its first ‘pro-life’ president, Ronald Reagan,

a Republican. In the 25 years between Reagan and Donald Trump, the two President Bushes went through the motions of being pro-life, but this was evidently not a priority for either of them. Reagan and Trump, however, attracted conservative Democrats, made the GOP the pro-life party, and defined between them the meaning of the term RINO. Both were hated for it.

Meanwhile, Democrats morphed into the party of the establishment – a party that also champions abortion and sexual perversion. No political party has ever challenged natural law like today’s Democrats. Upholding the greatest genocide of human beings the world has ever known in abortion, it is not a stretch to refer to it now as the Party of Death. At this point, support for child-killing, CRT, and preferred pronouns have become non-negotiable.

Politics is the art of ideas and compromise aimed at the good of society. The underlying battle between theist and atheist world views are divided much differently today than they were 50 years ago. As many Catholics and others of good-will found out in the 1980s, faithfulness to unchanging principles might mean having to change support for political parties.

Unchangeable principles must underlie our political engagement for the common good. There can never be peace without justice, nor justice without truth. When Truth Himself (Jn 8:32, 14:6) is denied (Jn 18:38), and reason (Jn 1:1) is lost, politics devolves into a raw power play.

State Senate Race in  
Methuen & Lawrence

Three Democrats are running in the September 6th primary to fill the seat vacated by Diana DiZoglio who is running for State Auditor.

Methuen City Councilor Eunice Zeigler, Lawrence City Councilor Pavel Payano, and Lawrence activist Doris Rodriguez are all seeking the Democrat Party’s nomination to go on to the November final election.

Despite having mostly the same positions on every issue, these three candidates come from very different backgrounds and have very different perspectives on leadership at The State House.

EUNICE ZEIGLER - Methuen City Councilor Eunice Zeigler represents the East District of Methuen and is in her third term on the council. She is term limited out and cannot run for reelection to the council next year.

Zeigler’s campaign has focused a lot on “racism” and “social justice.” During her zoom fundraisers she addressed multiple times what she will do about “systemic racism,” “antisemitism” and “white privilege.”

“We have to have those conversations,” Zeigler said. When asked on the Paying Attention Podcast if it’s the role of a state senator to tackle “racism” she said it is. When asked if she believes we will ever get rid of “racism” she said she absolutely believes we can.

She supports Black Lives Matter and brought the controversial anti-police group to rally in Methuen.

Zeigler has worked for the cities of Haverhill and Lowell.

Her website touts her local experience; “Having worked in the Community Development Department for the City of Haverhill and currently at the YWCA in Lawrence, Eunice has served in all three communities in our district and knows their character and needs firsthand.”

Unlike most of her colleagues on the Methuen City Council, Zeigler does not get involved in the petty political fights and controversies that are a staple of those meetings.

“As your state senator, I will bring more resources to the First Essex District and champion our rights to affordable housing, a high-quality education, reliable transportation and safe roads, jobs that pay a living wage, a clean environment, and the right to live with dignity.

PAVEL PAYANO - Pavel is a Lawrence City Councilor At-Large (city wide) and has topped the ticket in the last three elections. The son of a Lawrence teacher and the product of the Lawrence Schools, Pavel served on the Lawrence

School Committee before winning a seat on the city council.

This is Payano’s second run for State Senate, losing in 2014 to Barbara L’Italien.

Unlike the rest of his party, Pavel Payano supports the police and rejects the “defund the police” movement in his party. He has voted to increase police protection every year he has been on the city council in Lawrence.

Payano also breaks with his party on the issue of charter schools. The Democrat Party opposed charter schools, as do his opponents in this race. Pavel is a strong advocate for charter schools.

“Education and housing have to be our top priorities,” Pavel told The Valley Patriot.

Payano served as an Adjunct Professor at Merrimack College where he taught graduate classes in Community Development & Community Organizing. He continued to pursue his passion for education as a Math IEP Teacher for the Department of Youth Service where he helped dozens of incarcerated youths obtain the credits they needed to graduate high school and start post high-school training or education.

DORIS RODRIGUEZ - Political activist Doris Rodrigues is an attorney. She ran for mayor of Lawrence last year and was defeated in the preliminary election to Kendrys Vasquez and Brian DePena. She ran for state senate unsuccessfully in 2014.

“My goal is to make our education system much better than it is now,” she said not giving any details as to how she would do that.

She also says that she wants the state to turn control of the Lawrence schools over to the local officials. Lawrence Schools have been in state receivership for more than ten years.

She balked at the idea of lowering or eliminating the state gas tax saying she first needs to know the argument as to why the legislature defeated that measure earlier this year.

Asked if she supports more money for police, Rodriguez said that “When needed” she would vote to increase funding.

“Recently they installed the shooter detection system in the area, which is a camera that turns on when it detects a gunshot in certain neighborhoods. Now, that’s a great tool that we needed that I don’t know why it took so long to have that in place.”

Rodriguez says she doesn’t believe kids today are getting an inferior education compared to 1995 when she graduated from high school. ◇

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# KEEPING PROMISES

## New Electric School Buses for the Children of Lawrence

Lawrence Mayor Brian A. DePena’s Office gratefully welcomed is new partnership with Beacon Mobility to not only help the City of Lawrence with the Mayor’s Economic Prosperity Plan by training and hiring our residents, but it will also help us protect our children’s health by reducing pollution.

With funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021, the Biden-Harris Administration allocated \$500 million for all states — the first round of funding with \$5 billion in total— for school districts to replace the nation’s fleet of school buses with low and zero-emission buses. The Clean School Bus (CSB) program is expected to be fully implemented by 2026.

As a high-need school district and underprivileged community, Lawrence is eligible to apply for electrical school buses along with other 24 communities in Massachusetts. “This is exactly what this is about -creating jobs and economic opportunities for people in your community,” said Governor Baker.

The recruiting and training center will provide approximately 200 new jobs at NRT Bus, Van Pool, Trombly Motor Coach, Salter Transportation, and JYL Transportation, all part of Beacon Mobility.

“We look forward to seeing the wheels of our electrical buses going round and round across the city and the Commonwealth sooner or later,” concluded Mayor’s Assistant, Jhovanny Martes.

Located at 276 Essex Street in Lawrence, the Center’s staff will be available to assist with job applications, resume building, training course enrollment (virtual and in-person), and CDL training certifications. All services will be available in both English and Spanish.

The mayor was joined by Governor Charlie Baker, Labor, and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta, DESE Commissioner Jeffrey Riley, the Lawrence State Delegation, the Lawrence City Council, and NRT Bus, Van Pool, Salter Transportation Authorities to celebrate the grand opening of a new, walk-in recruiting and training center located at 276 Essex Street in Lawrence, Massachusetts. ♦

# Blame It on the Big Bad Red Wolves

Ken Willette  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Revolutions can be very dangerous movements in nations unaccustomed to rules of law and enshrined rights. Without any viable opposition, revolutions will swallow up everything in their paths like hurricanes and tornadoes.

What the poorly educated Leftist students of history fail repeatedly to understand about revolutions is that they always need to feed on more victims to survive. Revolutions will destroy both the strongest party members and the remaining non-believers—a system where everyone is living in fear, and no one is truly safe.

Unfortunately, some Leftists are so wrapped up in counterculture tactics and theatrics lately that they have missed the gains achieved over the last 40 years.

Any position contrary to the Leftist view of the world represents an evil force that must be confronted directly. The contrary opinion is so destructive of their perception that they dehumanize their opponents.

They harass them in restaurants, publicize their home addresses, leak sensitive information, try to assassinate them, challenge their religious beliefs, question their race, and gender and engage in mob tactics whenever possible.

Leftists are desperate, especially now that comedians and writers are ridiculing their woke antics. They have consistently lost the war on capitalism, intellectual rights, and free enterprise, despite their best effort to tax the living hell out of businesses, overregulate and shame them for their traditional views. Now they are facing fierce opposition to their efforts aimed at indoctrination of the youth. The Leftists thought they could achieve their goals through cultural warfare, but a backlash is happening in our schools and across the nation.

I was under the impression that we should highlight sexual orientation being linked to genetics, and not sexual preference, so why are some people engaging in recruitment efforts, period? If certain individuals are predisposed and born to be gay, why apply artificial environmental forces at an early age to those who are not?

Personally, I can’t understand the purpose of having drag queens at kids’ events. Or why kindergarten teachers

are volunteering their sexuality in the classrooms and creating classroom assignments on the topic. I taught my kids very early the principles of stranger danger; that they could communicate with me anytime; and that we respect diversity in our society. But there is a big leap between guidelines on stranger danger and full-blown sex education in kindergarten. My kids only recently participated in sex education in middle school, which was the grade level for myself years ago. I support gay marriage, but can we apply a brake to some of these other outlandish actions and have a serious conversation?

I even get a kick out of the teachers blaming the Big Bad Red GOP wolves for attacking the GLBTQ community, when they have a very myopic understanding of modern history. Bill Clinton signed into law the Defense of Marriage Act, and Obama was initially opposed to gay marriage. Opposition to gay marriage was bipartisan, just an FYI. Gradually, many people accepted that the world was not going to collapse with gay marriage in place. But some people still oppose it on religious grounds. Can we respectfully disagree?

But since when did the Leftists adopt a Halloween approach to protest? Dressing up as characters in A Handmaiden’s Tale to oppose the overturning of Roe V Wade. Dressing up as drag queens for library visits. Dressing up as Third World banana republic rebels in lame Antifa outfits to protest--- (pick one of a thousand complaints, because they change every week).

Funny how the pretend Handmaidens complain about privacy rights being taken away, but they illegally accost a justice at his or her home. The Handmaidens don’t skip a beat when Biden begs for oil from a country like Saudi Arabia where women were only recently given the right to drive—a real-life Handmaiden’s Tale society based on theocratic Islamic Law.

However, many Leftists really can be proud because they went against Evil American Oil and Gas, which has caused massive inflation and a dive into recession. Last time I checked, there were non-existent gay rights in Saudi Arabia, so mission accomplished on that detour. It reeks of hypocrisy to trade with countries that are anti-gay and anti-women because of your green agenda at home. I guess blame it on the Big Bad Red Wolves next door. ♦



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# N.A. Selectman Nobile’s Residency in Question

North Andover Selectman Chris Nobile is coming under fire as some political activists are questioning whether Nobile actually lives in North Andover.

Nobile was asked during public participation earlier this year if he lived in town but Nobile refused to answer.

During a meeting discussion about the proposed Royal Crest - Merrimack College development, Nobile pushed the project on voters saying that he lived near Merrimack College and as a neighbor he wanted to see the project passed at town meeting.

In March, Nobile had listed his home at 317 Hillside Road for sale.

In April, Nobile applied to be on a town board in Ogunquit, Maine listing his Ogunquit address at 48 Ocean Street.

Nobile claimed on the form that this was his summer residence. His application for the Ogunquit Comprehensive Plan Committee touts his experience on the North Andover School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee.

In May, shortly before North Andover Town Meeting, Nobile listed his Ogunquit address on his application form to run a half marathon in Maine. His wife then registered to vote in Ogunquit, Maine.

He sold his home shortly after the May Town Meeting, when the Royal Crest proposal was rejected by the voters. The home sold on June 15th for \$785,000. He originally purchased the home in 1997 for \$207,000.

Sources at North Andover Town Hall say that they have received complaints

that the selectman is no longer living in town. Nobile currently lists his residence as the home of Thomas Kincaid on Coventry Lane.

School Committeeman Andrew McDevitt said that he believes Nobile has some explaining to do.

“I think the taxpayers have the right to know if our tax dollars are paying for representation living out of the state.”

Asked if Nobile should resign if he is not living in town, McDevitt said an investigation is needed to determine Nobile’s residency.

“If he’s not a resident of the town, I’m not sure how in good conscience he can represent North Andover and take our tax dollars out of state. North Andover residents deserve a Select Board living full time in town. Additional investigation is needed to confirm his residency. North Andover should not need to wait until March elections for a vacancy.”

Nobile was contacted three times by The Valley Patriot and refused to respond to our requests.

When asked about Nobile’s residency situation, Selectman Rosemary Smedile told The Valley Patriot that Nobile needs to be forthcoming about whether or not he still lives in town.

“Well, first you should ask him if he lives in Town or not. I know he had signed up to vote on Coventry Lane, but now that the question has been made public, I think he needs to state clearly what he’s doing. The people of North Andover have the right to know if a member of the board lives in town or



not.”

Smedile says she strongly believes that people elected to represent the town should live in town. She added that when she lost her house during the Columbia Gas disaster it was a total loss and she and her husband paid more money to stay in town.

“When I lost my house, people were offering us rentals outside of North

Andover and we knew it was going to be more than a year before we could return. For me, it wasn’t appropriate to sit on the board if I didn’t work and live in town I represent. We paid more money to live in town that whole time, that’s how strongly I felt. Our town has a lot going on and the voters deserve that.”


Photos of all documents referenced in this story are on ValleyPatriot.com. ♦

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# Constituent and Community Services Above All Else

July was an incredibly busy legislative month for Representative Devers. Because July 31st was the last day for formal legislative sessions for the 2021-2022 term, the House worked nonstop this month to pass several important pieces of legislation. In fact, the final session dealt with so much unfinished work that it continued well into the morning of August 1st. The Representative's legislative work for this month included ten formal House sessions and an oversight hearing for the Joint Committee on Transportation, as well as a quarterly meeting with the Governor.

The first major piece of legislation was the SPEED Act, which addresses the immediate needs of the Commonwealth's veteran community and residents on active duty by establishing the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity, which expedites the professional licensure process for military spouses and waives proof of residency requirements for military families and their children for schooling, allowing them to register, enroll, and qualify for in-state tuition before proving residency in the Commonwealth.

The second piece of important legislation to pass the House was H.5007, An Act relating to economic growth and relief for the Commonwealth. This bill utilizes American Rescue Plan funding, FY'22 surplus funds, and bonds to make significant state investments, including one-time rebates and long-term tax relief. Representative Devers filed three amendments to the bill, all of which would benefit Lawrence residents through investments in local nonprofits. The Representative also co-sponsored 22 amendments, ranging in topic from bringing families out of deep poverty to Lawrence's economic recovery to regional transit funding.

The next pieces of legislation passed by the House in July were two transportation-related bills and the SAPHE 2.0 bill. The transportation bills will give class 1 and 2 e-bike users to the same rights, privileges, and duties as non-electric bike users if they are not operating on the sidewalk and will require motorists to keep a safe distance from pedestrians,

bicyclists, mobility device users, and others. Both transportation-related bills passed the House and will make the Commonwealth's roadways safer and more efficient. The SAPHE 2.0 bill, H.4328, makes improvements to local and regional health systems. By establishing a statewide standard for local public health boards and the services they provide, dedicating state funding to the boards, and creating a uniform data collection and reporting system.

In addition to a large number of formal house sessions this month, Representative Devers attended the Joint Committee on Transportation's MBTA oversight hearing, which was called to examine deficiencies in safety management at the MBTA. The committee, with Representative Devers as Vice Chair, will examine the MBTA's structure, recent safety incidents, and federal oversight reports about the organization. This was the first oversight hearing on this topic this session, and the committee plans to hold future oversight hearings on MBTA safety and practices before the end of the year. Additionally, this month Representative Devers attended the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus's quarterly meeting with Governor Baker to review the caucus's priorities for the rest of the session.

Throughout this very busy month, Representative Devers was still out and about in Lawrence. Among other events, he attended the unveiling ceremony for eight new Lawrence Police cruisers and visited the Youth Voice summer program at the Lawrence YMCA to explain the importance of civics and share his story as a Dominican-born immigrant, teacher, and politician to the youth group. Representative Devers' office also functioned at full capacity throughout the busy month, not only supporting him in the flurry of legislative activities but keeping up with an increase in constituent cases as well. If you or someone you know has a problem in the city of Lawrence, Representative Devers can be contacted at his email, [devers@mahouse.gov](mailto:devers@mahouse.gov) ♦

## CAMPBELL: FROM PAGE 2

others, in investigating the root causes of the tragic COVID-related deaths of 77 Veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home and recommending actionable changes in accountability and transparency," said Paul Jensen, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, former Company Commander with the 82nd Airborne Division, and current Veterans' Service Officer for the City of Methuen. "It is especially impressive that they rejected the initial bill introduced after their report, choosing instead to stick to their guns and insist on reforms proposed in the original bill. This bill affects some of our most needy Veterans, and we owe them only the best in care and services and streamlining the chain of command and elevating the role of Secretary of Veterans' Services to a true cabinet-level position will only serve to continue our long tradition of serving our

Veterans here in the Commonwealth." "To me there are two most important aspects of this legislation: first, creating a position Secretary of Veterans' Services, and secondly creating a statewide Veterans' Homes Council comprised of Veteran advocates with expertise in various fields along with representation for a diverse population of Veterans from throughout the Commonwealth," said Ed "Hoppy" Curran, Vietnam Veteran, former Veterans' Service Officer for the City of Methuen, and current head of the Lawrence Vietnam Memorial Committee. *State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature. She serves as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Advanced IT, the Internet and Cybersecurity. She can be reached at [Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov](mailto:Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov) or (617) 722-2676. ♦*

## ARCHINSKI: FROM PAGE 5

that there can be only two reasons for his failure to act. Either he had a desire to protect one or more of the participants from some type of future judicial sanction, or he just simply took a laissez-faire attitude and chose to do nothing in an attempt to shirk work responsibilities," the report said. Investigators concluded: "...there is strong and convincing evidence which rises above the threshold of the preponderance of the evidence standard that indicates Lt. Archinski was not truthful when he answered questions posed by the investigators..." during the internal investigation. Archinski retired from the Dracut Police Department under a 2007 Settlement Agreement with the town. The shotgun policy violation and Lo Kai incident were predominant subjects of that agreement. As part of the agreement, the suspensions for the shotgun policy violation and Lo Kai incident were both rescinded and expunged and Archinski

was paid for the four days. In addition, Archinski was appointed to the position of "assistant to the parking clerk" and received \$40 per week in special pay, retroactive to July 31, 2007, until he retired on December 31, 2008. It's unclear what Archinski did to earn the special pay, but it's clear he padded his pension with it for the last 18 months he was on the town payroll. What's likely to be worse for Archinski than what's been released? What hasn't been released—yet. O'Brien appealed the town's decision to redact and withhold information to the state's public records keeper. Dracut was ordered to provide all documents in un-redacted form, but their release has been delayed for months; O'Brien says he still hasn't received them. Eventually, he will, and you'll be able to read all about it right here. Honest. *Brian Genest is the producer and host of Eye On Dracut, winner of the 2022 Hometown Media Award for News. ♦*

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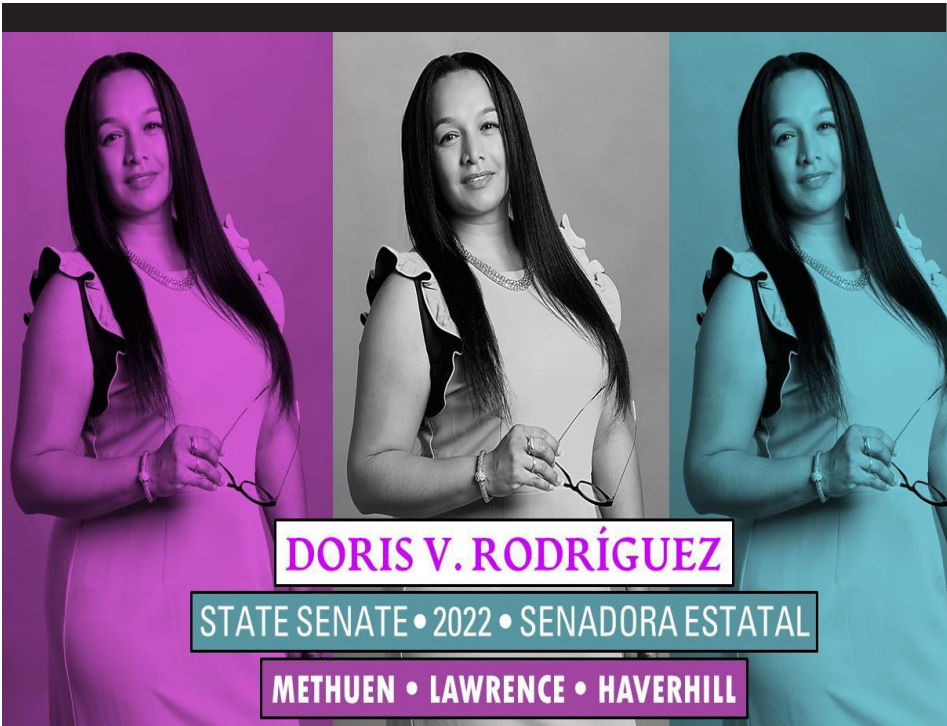
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# KANE’S CORNER

## Dr. John J.Donovan at Advantage Chiropractor

“Motion is Lotion and Rest is Rust,” say Dr. John Donovan. Words to Live by on how to maintain the Health of the Spine and Extremities.

Kane visited Advantage Chiropractic last week because his neck hurt after straining to see his neighbors over the fence. “Don’t judge me, Kane said, I’m a German Shepherd we are built to be nosy neighbors.” Dr. John J. Donovan evaluated his conditions and explained that he came to the right place, helping people get out of pain is what we do. Kane was happy to hear this, he has a hot date next week and wanted to strut into the room. Nobody wants to date a whinny, limping puppy wearing the cone of shame.

Kane was quite intrigued to learn how the magic happened since he was feeling like his old self again after a few sessions, so he decided to interview John about his profession. Kane wasn’t sure if John saw other dogs, but he sure saw a lot of humans every day. Kane asked John what the most common ailments clients sought services for at his business. Dr. Donovan explained that most people seek out chiropractic services for neck pain, back pain, headaches, and pains in the extremities. John explained that posture and the alignment of the spine is one of the keys to health. John also works on soft tissue damage. John explained, “I stay in my lane, and know what I can and cannot correct with treatment.”

John explained to Kane that many injuries come from compensating for other injuries that a person may not even know they have. He used the example of a client reporting that she hurt her neck eating soup, but most likely there was already some damage done at a previous time. Kane could relate to this. Yes, he was guilty of straining his neck to look over the neighbor’s fence, but really, he strained his neck a few weeks ago

when he heard someone open a cheese wrapper. It was time for his humans to share. He does remember thinking awwwh that quick jerk hurt my neck, but the cheese was soooooo yummy. John explained the goal was to optimize the function of the spine by correcting posture. The stages of returning back to health are inflammation, repair, and remodeling the soft tissue of the injured area. This made sense to Kane.

Dr. Donovan explained that there is no greater motivation then getting out of pain. When Kane asked how he became interested in chiropractic medicine, he explained that a chiropractor was the only professional able to get him out of pain when he was 19 experiencing IT band pain from running track. He had tried traditional resting the injury and medication for inflammation, but it was the chiropractor that helped him. At the time he thought, that was cool what the chiropractor was able to do for me, that would be cool to be able to do that for other people. “Although looking back this seems like idealistic 19-year-old thinking” John said. Kane thought, John does help people relieve pain and keep them moving so his desire to help others has come true. He treats people from young athletes to well into their senior years.

Kane asked what type of schooling is required to be a chiropractor? John started with a bachelor’s degree at St. Anselm’s College then five Academic years and Training to complete his Doctorate Degree in Chiropractic School. Kane learned that John has been practicing in the Merrimack Valley since 1996.

Kane said his humans always told him as a puppy to hold his head up high and watch your posture. John laughed and said there is actually a lot of truth to saying “Stand up Straight”. Well Kane said mothers I guess are always right.

Lastly Kane would like people to know that



Chiropractic Medicine is not limited to injuries; many people use it to keep their level of athleticism as they age and to keep their body loose and limber. If you would like to see Dr. John Donovan for pain or prevention this is how to get in touch with him. As for Kane, he is back to his playful self, running fast and jumping high, as well as snooping on the neighbors, thanks to Dr. John Donovan. Dr. John Donovan, Advantage Chiropractic, 2 Courthouse Lane Suite 9, Chelmsford, MA 01824. 978-453-0900 | john@DonovanChiropractic.net

Woof,  
Kane Columnist and Mascot  
for the The Valley Patriot ♦

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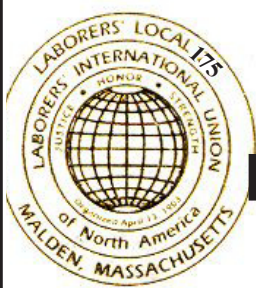
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## Lupoli Companies Named 4th Largest Developer in Massachusetts

Lawrence - The Boston Business Journal has named Lupoli Companies the fourth largest commercial developer in Massachusetts. The rankings for the prestigious list are based on quantitative metrics, including a company’s total commercial real estate development and transaction volume in the Commonwealth since 2017. During that time, Lupoli Companies has acquired and developed more than 4.5 million square feet of real estate.

Sal Lupoli, CEO and President of Lupoli Companies, says he is honored to receive this recognition for the fifth consecutive year, thanks to the dedication of his team.

“I am beyond grateful to my team for their hard work and determination during the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of their continued efforts, our company has been able to forge ahead with several new projects that will contribute to continued economic growth throughout the Merrimack Valley and beyond.”

Since developing the Riverwalk Innovation District in the early 2000s, Lupoli Companies has used a forward-thinking approach to develop close to 6 million square feet of commercial real estate in the region, specifically focused on activating underutilized areas with pedestrian connectivity to provide greater access to transit for a diverse audience.

Lupoli Companies is focused on strategic growth with the support of important stakeholders in the region. From adaptive redevelopment in gateway cities such as Thorndike Exchange in Lowell, Haverhill Heights in Haverhill, Riverwalk Lofts, and The Pavilion in Lawrence to several new lifestyle communities in towns like Littleton.

In 2022, Lupoli Companies will open The Pavilion at Riverwalk, which will

serve as the central hub of the Riverwalk Innovation District, with green space in an outdoor quad and an eclectic mix of retail and office tenants. This marquis project added a 1,200-car parking garage to the campus, and a regulation sized multi-sport turf field and event venue on the banks of the Merrimack River.

Looking toward the future, Lupoli Companies is set to commence one of the largest master plan developments in the state, transforming the former IBM campus in Littleton into a vibrant village with much-needed 780 residential units, 1,200,000 square feet of new retail/commercial/restaurant space and more than 6,500,000 square feet of lab space.

In Downtown Haverhill, Lupoli Companies has plans to replace the Goecke parking deck that has aged past its useful life with an exciting mixed-use project to include a new parking structure, hundreds of residential units, and more than 60,000 square feet of new retail/commercial/restaurant space. The Downtown Haverhill Redevelopment Project will also connect several areas to the waterfront with a public plaza to serve the community.

In Lowell, Lupoli Companies is in the process of installing a new precast garage adjacent to the new courthouse in the Hamilton Canal district, where design is underway for two new towers and pedestrian access to public green space.

“Lupoli Companies has consistently been a catalyst for change through transformative development across our region,” says Sal Lupoli from his office at Riverwalk, where he is still at the front of the helm every day. “I still run to the office every day with a sense of optimism and an open mind about what new projects will come across our desks today.” ♦

### WEATHER 101 with AL KAPRIELIAN

## The Middle of Summer

Welcome to August which sadly is the last full month of the summer season.

It seems each year the summer just flies by. You may be noticing that darkness is now starting to occur earlier.

In August we lose 75 minutes of daylight by the end of the month. On a positive note, the ocean waters are warmer in August than in June and July. The tropics (where hurricanes form) were quiet in the month of July. There were not a lot of clouds in the tropics. However, as the ocean waters warm in August, the tropical activity along with the formation of tropical depressions, storms and hurricanes increases. Peak hurricane season is mid-August to mid-September. Hurricanes can still form after mid-September and can also occur in October. It’s not impossible to get a hurricane in November.

Since July was quiet in the tropics, there is nothing really to report. However, next month’s article should feature more on tropical weather as the tropics become active.

#### Recapping July

It started out with some cooler than normal weather similar to June. It was a slow start this year to true summer weather. This June was unlike last June when we had many hot days with Boston reaching 100 degrees on June 30, 2021. This July was much drier than 2021. Boston was close to 3 inches below normal for rainfall. Last July, Boston had a lot of rain and was not as hot as July of this year. As you can see, the weather can be quite changeable from year to year.

Due to the lack of rain this year we continue to be in a severe drought in the Merrimack Valley. Some towns in Massachusetts have water bans. No outdoor watering!! The true summer weather finally came in July which was the start of a 6-to-7-day heat wave for many areas. The slow start to the hot weather this summer was caused by the Jet Stream which was tracking south of New England. This put us on the northern

side of the jet stream which is the cooler side.

On the northern side of the Jet Stream, winds were blowing mainly from the northwest which brought cooler than normal air into New England. This Northwest wind brought not only cooler air from Canada but dry air. The lack of rain this summer has been due to this dry air. The drought has caused brush fires to form. When you are outside be careful if you have any smoking materials. With the dry ground and soil this can cause fires to rapidly start and if its windy they can rapidly spread.

We finally got a heat wave this summer it took until mid-July to arrive. During the 6-to-7-day heat wave many areas were over 90 degrees. Boston reached 100 degrees on Sunday July 24th. This broke the old record of 98 degrees set in 1933 on July 24.

July this year was the 3rd hottest summer on record for Boston. Lawrence and Norwood also reached 100 degrees on July 24th. The heat wave and very hot weather was the time for tee-shirts, shorts, and flip flops to help keep you cool! Also, during hot weather, make sure you drink plenty of water to keep you hydrated! If your job has you working outside take frequent water breaks in shaded areas. During hot weather, wear light color clothing, tee-shirts, and shorts. Light colors absorb less heat from the sun.

The reason for the hot weather that arrived in mid-July was that the jet stream started to shift back north into Canada. This caused all the heat over the central part of the country which had been there for many weeks to finally make it into New England. Enjoy the rest of summer. If at the beach and there is high surf make sure you swim near a lifeguard. Stay tuned to next month’s article for the answers to the following: will August be as hot as July was, any heat waves, any beneficial rain to help with our ongoing drought, activity in the tropics. In the meantime, stay safe and enjoy! ♦

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THE DOCTOR IS IN!

Wellness

Dr. Pierre Ghassibi  
VALLEY PATRIOT MEDICAL COLUMNIST

Greetings all. Let me repeat here a theme that I covered before but maybe in different words. The treatment of very many conditions and diseases is like crutches for a broken leg. These are advices that help prevent our body from breaking :

\* Our muscles hold our structure. We have to keep them in shape. But good muscles bring also less cancer, less diabetes, less dementia, less depression, less arthritis, less heart attacks, less strokes.

\* A plant based diet does the same. If we cannot turn vegan, at least we can cut out meat, chicken, pork, etc and eat fish less than once a week. Omega three is not what it is claimed to be. A plant based diet also fights climate change.

\* It is rare for back surgery to markedly eliminate pain; heat, ice, massage, pills, only hide the problem. The back mostly heals itself if we take care of it. The way to take care of our spine, in addition to staying fit, is to never bend over and never use the arms to lift. We have to lift with the pelvis. The arms only keep the object glued to

our center. The effort should come from the pelvis and from the knees. People with weak knees should not lift more than a few pounds.

\* Our children : My patients often thought that I wanted to starve their children. We want our kids to eat “ well “ because we love them. But “ well “ does not mean a lot. We are seeing teenagers with hip and knee disease from morbid obesity and lack of muscles, we are seeing diabetes, even heart failure at a young age from obesity. Add to this poor self esteem, migraine, reproductive issues, poor sleep and a number of skin conditions due to obesity.

\* We should realize that we cannot impose our opinion on our children, friends, colleagues and spouses. Every tiny family hostility pulls us a bit apart, but with time, the distance gets appreciable. This is very hard to practice because imposing our opinion and style on others is built in our DNA.

This is the main Tower of Babel in society. If we are sure that our opinion is the right one, we should try to gently convince others and not impose our way. Imposing poisons the atmosphere and it does not last.

P. Ghassibi, MD  
ghassibi@hotmail.com

DENTAL CARE

Periodontal Disease

If periodontal disease is not addressed properly, it could lead to loss of teeth and much more.

Not only could periodontal (gum) disease lead to tooth loss but there is also a connection between gum disease and overall health problems. The bacteria in the mouth can spread to other parts of the body and cause secondary problems.

Having periodontal (gum) disease makes you 50% prone to having a heart attack, 47% more prone to having a stroke, and 35% more likely to develop kidney, pancreatic, or liver cancer. It is a chronic inflammatory disease that places people at a higher risk of developing osteoporosis, heart disease, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, respiratory disease, pancreatic/kidney cancer, and low birth weight/pre-term births in women.

The reason being is that the bacteria responsible for periodontal (gum) disease may actively enter the circulation and become trapped in many organs and tissues.

Do you have periodontal (gum) disease?

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DR. MATEO

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HERO: FROM PAGE 1

the globe, he served with the 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Infantry Division, 3rd Infantry Division, 27th Airborne Engineer Brigade, United States Medical Command, United States Southern Command and the 101st Airborne Division.

He has served our country in combat and on peace time keeping missions in Panama, Israel, Egypt, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Macedonia, Kuwait, Iraq and throughout Central and South America.

During his US Army service, Jamie Melendez earned numerous awards, the Combat Medical Badge, the Parachute Combat Jump Badge with a Bronze Service Star, a Purple Heart, Four Army Commendation Medals, Eight Army Achievement Medals, Joint Meritorious Award, Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Eight Good Conduct Medals, Three National Defense Service Medals, Southwest Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Two Armed Forces Service Medals, Four Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbons, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Two Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals with an Arrowhead Device, Two NATO Service Medals, Multinational Force and Observer Medal, Two United Nations Medals, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), US Army Driver and Mechanics Badge, Bronze German Armed Forces Parachute Badge, Bronze German Marksmanship Badge, Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, and the US Army Expert Field Medical Badge.

Jaime is still serving our Nation and

our Nation’s Veterans as the current Director of Veterans’ Services for the City of Lawrence and has been at that position since October 11, 2011. He served as the President of the Massachusetts Veterans Service Officers Association from 2019 thru 2021. I went into his office with muffins and tea, expecting to hear about his military service, and instead we talked about serving the Veterans of the Merrimack Valley. First Sargent Jamie Melendez, US Army-retired, is truly a “Hero in Our Midst.”

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC! Veterans of all eras are asked to go the American Legion’s Web site [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org), and join the American Legion, our mission is working with Congress, preserving our Veteran’s Benefits for future generations.

John Cuddy served in the US Navy’s



*Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the US Navy; he earned a bachelor’s in history and a master’s in economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 25 years. If you know a World War II, Korean War, or Vietnam War, Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at [John.Cuddy@yahoo.com](mailto:John.Cuddy@yahoo.com) ◇*

SUE PIAZZA’S BOOK REVIEW

Book Review: My Heart Is on the Ground: The Diary of Nannie Little Rose, a Sioux Girl

© 1999 by Ann Rinaldi  
Published by: Scholastic Inc, NY  
Genre: Children, Historical  
Bookmarkers: 5 od 5

This story is written from the perspective of an uneducated 12-year-old Sioux girl, Little Rose, brought to the “Carlisle Indian School, Pennsylvania, 1880”. The novel takes place only a few years after the death, at Little Big Horn, of General Custer on 25 June 1876.

Ann Rinaldi appears to have done a significant amount of research on the Plains Indians, the different Native cultures that inhabited this area, their beliefs, customs, clothing, burial and death rites, etc.

Interestingly, it is not until the end of this book that the reader is told that Nannie Little Rose died in 1952 and that the diary she wrote was left to Lucy Rose, her great granddaughter. Is this book that diary? If so, how did the author get a hold of it? Are these answers, or only the message, important? Each reader will have to decide.

Upon arrival at this school all the children are forced to choose an “American” name by pointing to names on the blackboard. They have no idea what the marks on the blackboard mean and therefore have no idea what their new name will be. Little Rose has Nannie added before her Sioux name.

At the beginning of her writing Nannie Little Rose is unfamiliar with American grammar. As times goes by the reader sees the child’s grammar improve. Phases that we take for granted, when spoken by someone unfamiliar with word groupings, sounds ridiculous. Nannie Little Rose says, “But I did not know that rakes had teeth, that fingers have nails, and tables have legs.”

Little Rose writes about the teachers, the journey from Dakota to Pennsylvania, day to day workloads at the school, etc. She speaks of reservation life, of the disappearance of the buffalo, the poor quality of the soil on the res, how there is no shade for people or their crops in the summer (no trees) or warmth in their homes in the winter.

This diary talks of the difficult decisions chiefs must make, to leave children on the reservation facing ignorance and poverty or go to white schools to be educated in the white ways. The hope of these leaders is that the children are then able to bring knowledge back to the tribe to help lift the people and elevate them and the tribes’ financial standing. The schools had noble intentions. In practice, many of the actions taken by staff to enforce integration were wicked.

This period and the schools for Native American children is a particularly heinous time in our country’s history. Only now are we beginning to uncover the atrocities that were done to a generation under the guise of racial integration (submission).

This “Dear America” series is from Scholastic, the same company that published the Harry Potter books. These books deal with various historical events: coming to Plymouth 1620, the Civil War, a freed slave girl, a Jewish immigrant girl, the Titanic voyage, and numerous other titles. History comes alive in these unique books. I would highly recommend this book for adults as well as the children it is geared. A quick read: it only took me a couple house.

Susan Piazza, a Navy veteran, is an author, columnist, and blogger. Book One in her interracial historical romance, “A Bird Call That Isn’t,” It can be found on Amazon at: *A Bird Call That Isn’t*.





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State Rep. Lenny Mirra  
VALLEY PATRIOT GUEST COLUMNIST

Can a group of Democrats meet with a group of Republicans and decide, unanimously no less, on ways to revamp our election system and improve its integrity? Apparently, the answer is yes, and I saw this firsthand at a Common Ground Workshop put on by Braver Angels, a nationwide group formed for the purpose of addressing the terrible divisiveness and polarization gripping our nation.

This particular kind of workshop begins with an exercise called a fishbowl where those who lean “red” or Republican sit in a circle surrounded by those who lean “blue” or Democratic to discuss their personal connection to the issue at hand. The seats are then switched so that Blues get the same chance to discuss their opinions on the issue while the Reds sit quietly on the outside circle.

This was a good way to break the ice and prepare us for the second exercise where we broke up into red-blue “dyads” or pairs where we each asked the other two questions: what are a couple of solutions or policies I support in relationship to the issue, and what is a question of curiosity I have about my dyad partner’s positions.

These exercises put us in a proper mindset for the third exercise which divided the eight reds and eight blues into separate rooms where we discussed points where we and the other side can agree. This is where things got interesting as we then got back together to share these points of agreement to identify those that are unanimously accepted by all Red and Blue participants.

Blues were a little surprised to learn that Reds wanted to make sure there were an adequate number of voting locations as they were just as outraged over voters having to wait several hours in line just to cast a ballot. Both sides agreed that this is an infringement of voters’ rights as a lot of people don’t have the ability to do that on a workday. This led to a discussion of making election day a holiday, as well as election day voter registration, and voter ID. While there was not universal agreement on all of these ideas there was most certainly a respect for all opinions as every individual was allowed to speak uninterrupted. This is the Braver Angels way.

BA schedules all kinds of workshops, debates, and speaking events across the country and they tackle the most pertinent and controversial issues of our time including guns, abortion, racism, and campus speech codes. It’s an organization founded by a small group of citizens from opposite sides of the political spectrum who proved that we can not only disagree respectfully but also find common ground.

Anyone who wants to see what BA is all about can visit the group website at [BraverAngels.org](http://BraverAngels.org). And if anyone is interested in taking part in local events, we have created a Greater Boston Braver Angels group that is holding events locally.

We even have our own book club! Please visit our website at [greaterboston.braverangels.org](http://greaterboston.braverangels.org) to see what we do and join our email list.

*Lenny Mirra is the State Representative for the 2nd Essex District and the Red Co-Chair for Greater Boston Braver Angels.* ♦

FOXBOROUGH – Sal’s Pizza recently signed a sponsorship deal to become the official pizza of the New England Patriots and the New England Revolution.

Starting this August, Sal’s Pizza will be the exclusive pizza served at specified locations at Gillette Stadium. These designated locations include concession stands and premium spaces in the stadium. Pizza will be made on site and served hot and fresh. Cheese and pepperoni slices, as well as full pizzas, will be available. Additionally, during the 2022 season, Sal’s is offering a free small cheese pizza the day after the Patriots or Revolution win, with the purchase of any extra-large pizza. Visit [www.sals.com](http://www.sals.com) for additional details.

“We are extremely honored to be working with Kraft Sports and Entertainment,” said Sal Lupoli, President, and CEO of Sal’s Pizza. “As a local business, we know firsthand how much the New England Patriots and Revolution mean to our community, and we’re thrilled their fans can now enjoy Sal’s Pizza during games at Gillette Stadium.”

“We look forward to our new partnership with Sal’s Pizza and know our guests will enjoy their delicious pizza at Patriots and Revolution games

for years to come. As a family-owned, New England business ourselves, it means so much to partner with another local, family-owned business here at Gillette Stadium,” said Chris Collins, vice president of food and beverage at Gillette Stadium.

Patriots fans will be able to get their first taste of Sal’s Pizza when they bring their mobile pizza truck to training camp at Gillette Stadium July 27th thru July 30th.

Boston’s Fenway Park and TD Garden offers Sal’s Pizza as well, making this hometown pizza a staple at all major Boston sporting venues.

Sal’s Pizza has been a family-owned and operated business since 1990. Sal Lupoli opened his first pizza store in Salem, N.H. and now has more than 50 retail locations. Sal’s is known for using only the finest and freshest ingredients, as well as being home to the 19-inch, three-pound pizza. Sal’s Pizza can now be found at Gillette Stadium, Fenway Park, TD Garden, Agganis Arena, Tsongas Arena, and Delta Dental Stadium. The brand also offers a retail line of pizzas and sauces that can be found in Market Basket, Hannaford, Shaw’s, McKinnon’s, Walmart and Big Y. ♦



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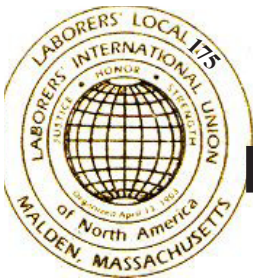




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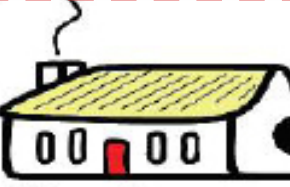
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# ‘The Bear’

**Bill Cushing**  
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

One of the biggest challenges these days when it comes to finding quality shows on TV, and finding something good to write about, is the sheer volume of content that there is to go through. A whole list of streaming services and hundreds of cable channels to watch. Sometimes it can be like finding a needle in a haystack. After all the buzz surrounding a new series that I had been hearing about called ‘The Bear,’ I decided to give it a try. The show is produced by FX and is broadcast on Hulu.

The series follows Carmen ‘Carmy’ Berzatto (Jeremy Allen White), an accomplished chef who cut his teeth in the fine dining world and has returned to Chicago to take over his family’s grungy sandwich shop The Original Beef of Chicagoland, after his brother’s suicide. His brother has left Carmy the successful, if run-down and mismanaged, business.

“I’m going to fix this place,” he tells his sister, Sugar (Abby Elliott), as much out of a sense of mission as a sense of business. Because frankly, as a business, it makes little sense to fix it. Of course, he is also out to fix himself, whether he knows it or not.

Rounding out the cast are Carmy’s brother’s best friend and manager of the restaurant, Richie (Ebon Moss-Bachrach), who detests Carmy’s pretentious attitude; Sydney (Ayo Edebiri), an accomplished chef in her own right who wants to learn from Carmy; and a slew of line workers who aren’t interested in wearing matching aprons or following orders from a relative newcomer. Richie is resistant to every change Carmy’s trying to make, including hiring the green but incredibly driven Sydney to come on as his Sous Chef.

Created by Christopher Storer (‘Ramy’), who is the showrunner along with fellow writer, director, and executive producer Joanna Calo, ‘The

Bear’ is anything but comfort TV. It’s frantic chaos right from the opening minutes and never lets up. Much of the eight, half-hour episodes are spent in the kitchen, as dishes clang, feet shuffle, and chefs shout over one another. Aside from the opening credits, Episode 7, ‘Review,’ is told in a single, 20-minute uninterrupted shot, and shows a kitchen in chaos. Sydney accidentally left the preorder option on their webpage after accidentally giving a reviewer some risotto that wasn’t even on the menu. Instead of slowing down, Carmy tries to rise to the occasion and fulfill all the pre-orders. The episode is as stressful and as brilliant as anything on TV this year.

The cast is tremendous, they’re all so good and at the top of their games. White is terrific in the lead role, but if there is a standout, it’s Ayo Edebiri as Sydney. Watching Sydney begin to hold her own in this new environment is one of the best things about ‘The Bear,’ as is Edebiri’s performance. She nails Sydney’s evolution into a force in the kitchen, bringing her drive and passion for cooking to the forefront. She’s also responsible for some of the funniest moments in the show, including any time she gets an opportunity to take Richie down a peg.

Shows like ‘The Bear,’ with its unique storyline, presentation, and performances, don’t come around too often. It’s a show that can be devoured in one night if you so choose. Make sure you give it a chance; it will be worth your time.

‘The Bear’ has been renewed for a second season, and the first season is available to stream on Hulu.

If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

Follow me on Twitter and Instagram @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ◇

# I Can’t Imagine!

**Peter Larocque**  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

God Bless you all in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ!

With all that is coming at us today from this world, what can it possibly be that I can’t imagine? Well, it’s living a life without a relationship with Jesus Christ. But this was not always the case for my entire life.

I began my journey with Jesus as a Catholic. I went to a Catholic School, kindergarten through 8th grade. I did what most Catholic kids would do which was partake in the Holy Sacraments like infant Water Baptism, 1st Communion, and Confirmation and reading my Catholic Bible. I also served as an altar boy. So, during this time I was taught and believed that Jesus was God. I believed in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Then in my teens I broke from tradition and joined the neighborhood Baptist Church, therefore, my relationship with Jesus became a little more personal. Now it wasn’t based on traditions and praying to big statues and doing Holy Sacraments. I began to read another version of the Bible; I believe it was called the Good News Bible. It wasn’t until much later that I found out that it was equivalent to the Catholic Bible, just the Baptist version.

Next, things took a big change when I took a new job that required me to work Sundays, so going to church on Sundays was out. Shortly after that, I was introduced to a Christian organization called The Way International, A Biblical Research and Teaching and Fellowship Ministry based out of New Knoxville, Ohio. They really catered to my need to know what was God’s Will for my life. One of their go-to statements was that “God wants you to know that you know, not question or doubt that the Bible is The Revealed Word and Will of God!” It was with this Ministry that I received an Associate’s Degree in Theology. One of their foundational teachings was “Jesus Christ is not God!” Therefore, talking to, praying to, or having any relationship with Him, especially worshipping Him was not available!!!

Unfortunately, I bought into this hook, line, and sinker in my 20s, 30s, and 40s and into some of my fifties! Now, for the sake of this article, I don’t want to spend time debating this subject at this time, in future articles we can do that, but for now, I want to focus on not being able to have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ!

I remember being in meetings where individuals were asked to leave for secretly praying to Jesus. Not being able to have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ is a BIG DEAL!!! Why??? Because all other relationships in life follow having an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ! If I can’t have an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ, how in the world am I going

to have a personal intimate relationship with my wife as her husband? How can I have a relationship with my children as their father? How can I have any kind of relationship with any Church Community?

There is No Greater Fellowship, Association, Companionship, Community, or Relationship than having an Intimate Up Close, and Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ! This must have first place in our lives for, without it, nothing, and I mean nothing, will work! The world is the way it is today because people refuse to believe that they need Jesus in their life!!! Look at this verse in 1 Corinthians 1:9, “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.” NKJV. God Almighty, The Creator of Heaven and Earth has called us into fellowship, koinonia: the Greek word for fellowship which means full sharing, intimacy which works both ways. God wants us to have a full intimate sharing relationship with His Dear Son, Jesus Christ!

So, in my 50s into now my 60s and have gone full circle in my beliefs of who Jesus Christ is, He is 100% God and 100% man! I am now back to worshipping and praying and talking to Jesus.

The most amazing thing through all of this is that Jesus never left me! I was never out of fellowship with Him. The Bible says in Psalm 139:8, “If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.” NKJV. This is called GRACE!!! The Cross of Jesus Christ is Greater than any wrong Doctrine!!!

So, having an intimate relationship with Jesus means that my other relationships are in proper order. I am still learning how to have a relationship with my wife, I am still a work in process, but I will spend the rest of my life working at it including how I relate to my children and to my Church family!

So back to my beginning thought. I can’t imagine now, having no personal relationship with Jesus Christ!

This is just a part of my journey with Jesus, my testimony! Having a testimony and not being ashamed to share it is a good thing because the Bible says in, Revelation 12:11, “And they [The brethren] overcame him [The accuser of the brethren] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, ...” NKJV. They overcame partly because of the word of their testimony!!!

I leave you with this, 1 Peter 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; NKJV. Amen!!!

*How is your relationship with Jesus???*  
*God Bless you all,*  
*Love to all of you,*  
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Elio & Michelle Tagliaferri, Inderpreet Singh & Avneet Kaur, \$175,000, 90B Washington Park Dr Unit 5  
536 North End Blvd LLC, Ryan & Vanessa Pacific, \$875,000, 5 Matthew St  
Linda Thibodeau, Jessica Marquis, \$210,000, 100C Washington Park Dr  
Lance Price & Liana Conway-Price, Thomas & Alexandra Beckwith, \$915,000, 9 William St  
6 Harper Circle Realty Tr & Margo & Bruce Goldman Tr, Ying Liu & Luyi Sun, \$1,220,000, 6 Harper Cir  
89 Holt Road Trust II & Caitlin Doran-Serafino Tr, Jerome Romano & Karen Simeone, \$2,950,000, 89 Holt Rd  
Daniel J Sweeney Living Tr & Donna J Sweeney Living Tr & Daniel & Donna Sweeney Tr, Kaileigh Sweeney, \$100,000, 47 Tewksbury  
Daniel J Sweeney Living Tr & Donna J Sweeney Living Tr & Daniel & Donna Sweeney Tr, Megan & Anthony Leahy, \$100,000, 33 Tewksbury St  
Marcia Vancini, Nicholas & Christina Statires, \$859,900, 2 Brentwood Cir  
Tend M Gould & Ted H Gould, EJD3 Family Nominee Tr & Eugene Doran III Tr & Caitlin Doran-Serafino Tr, \$525,000, 172 Haverhill St Unit 223  
Lisa & John Zaeder, Birgit Iskandar & John Nasr, \$1,280,000, 8 Warwick Cir  
Iuliana Ladokha & Oleksander Gaidar & Alexander & Juliana Haidar, Gregory Scharr, \$305,000, 2 Colonial Dr Unit A2-11  
Piotr & Dorothy Romanus, Angela Wang & Dmitry Tokar, \$1,750,000, 340 Salem St  
Ann Carlson, Zachary & Stephanie Goldman , \$950,000, 9 Stevens Cir  
Dinnocenzo Living Tr & William & Jamie Dinnocenzo Tr, David & Karen Spieler & David A Spieler Revocable Tr, \$1,476,000, 39 Ballardvale Rd  
Ellen & Richard Sawyer Jr , Daniel McLaughlin & Tara Fortunato, \$1,175,000, 10 Peach Tree Path  
Kuo-Bin & Mien Liu, Emran & Syeda Baqui, \$888,000, 5 Peach Tree Path  
Duffy Realty Tr & Theresa Petrie Tr, Raymond & Nina Bernard, \$949,000, 7 Dascomb Rd  
Dawn Greene, Sean Harris, \$420,000, 1200E Spring Valley Dr  
Jennifer Courcelle, Michael Sullivan, \$285,000, 354 North Main St Unit 214  
Mark & Danielle Ramsey, Patrick & Kristen Merrigan, \$980,000, 14 Bristol Ln  
Julie & David Springwater, Joanna & Daniel Mahoney, \$1,615,000, 55 William St  
David & Sharon Morgenstern, Danielle & Mark Ramsey, \$1,200,000, 5 Radcliff Rd  
Bin Wu & Ling Qui & Ling Qiu, Masooma & Aftab Bhaiwala, \$1,801,888, 3 Hay Bale Rd  
Andover Community Tr Inc & Essex County Habitat for Humanity, Emmanuel Mauricio, \$210,000, 8 Lupine Rd Unit 4  
Gibbs Living Tr & Deborah Gibbs Tr , Joshua Howard, \$585,000, 381 High Plain Rd  
Richard Licciardi Jr & Marie C Licciardi Living Tr & Marie & Richard Licciardi Tr, Richard & Catherine Wills, \$1,050,000, 21 Enfield Dr  
June Bug Family Tr & Melissa & Janet Ghiozzi, Mary J McLaughlin Revocable Tr & Matthew McLaughlin Tr, \$450,000, 4 Francis Dr Unit 302  
Pulte Homes of New England LLC, Richard & Janet Ghiozzi, \$337,500, 6 Overlook Dr Unit 302

Hard Work LLC, David Irwin & Amy Bilodeau, \$1,210,000, 17 Abbot Bridge Dr  
Derek & Amie Weber, Erin Rewalt & Mary Creamer, \$852,000, 9 Delphi Cir  
Mark & Jennifer Cordes, Thomas Losonezy & Audrey Strahl, \$1,350,000, 223 Chestnut St  
Donna Silvestro, Thomas Walsh, \$527,500, 21 Mohawk Rd  
Glenn & Laurie Verrette, Yan Ren, \$2,760,000, 46 Porter Rd  
Joanne Pratt, Mitchell Alves & Elizabeth Buhl, \$410,000, 15 Balmoral St Unit 2  
Jay & Patricia Schwartz, Hani Elkotory & Alshaimaa Elakkad, \$699,900, 3 Miles Cir  
Sanfield Rich Realty Tr & Ronald Sanfield Tr & Jane Rich Tr, Jessica Donahue & Kent Fournier, \$676,000, 10 Harding St  
142 North Street CBC LLC, Renata & Steven Roddy II, \$1,613,584, 142 North St  
Stephen & Elizabeth Hoar, Erik & Katie Olson, \$829,000, 6 Wild Rose Dr  
Pulte Homes of N.E., LLC, Sally Sangermano, \$488,825, 6 Overlook Dr Unit 307  
John & Mary Nolan, Geoffrey & Melissa Bruno, \$910,000, 27 Johnson Rd  
Octavio Dasilva, Andover USA LLC, \$650,000, 260 Salem St  
Mcallister Family Tr & Richard & Janet Mcallister Tr, Benjamin Perkins, \$870,000, 8 Korinithian Way  
Pulte Homes of New England LLC, William & Barbara Quirk, \$650,000, 4 Francis Dr Unit 106  
Curtin Family Tr & Michael Curtin Tr & Beth Bysheim Tr, Gannon & Elisha Depetris, \$851,000, 5 Rolling Ridge Rd  
Patricia A Collins Revocable Tr & John Collins III Tr, Jean Bressan, \$769,000, 68 Wild Rose Dr  
Peter Ahn & Sookhee Park , Jennifer Ly & Alexander Le, \$445,000, 200 Brookside Dr Unit E  
Jan T Symosek Famly Tr & Peter F Symosek Family Tr & Jan Symosek Tr & Peter Symosek Tr, SAI Builders LLC, \$800,000, 6 Lockway Rd  
Scott & Lindsay Irving & Lindsay Shevelow , Natalie Armano & Donald Driscoll III, \$1,235,000, 2 Montego Cir  
Keith & Suhail Morrison, Thorarinn Kristjansson, \$920,000, 10 Rock Odundee Rd  
Young Kwon & Heejeong Cho, Jayanta Das & Swapna Patnaik, \$415,000, 400 Brookside Dr Unit C  
Veronica & Loraine Pennick, Lili Zhao, \$575,000, 81 Chestnut St Unit 2  
CSH Andover LLC, SHP VI Andover LLC, \$39,715,000, 141 Elm St  
Erin Nelligan & Erin & Philipp McNally, Kerry Nelligan, \$175,000, 2 Colonial Dr Unit B2-1

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Rico Alvarez & Socorro Dejesus, Tammy Crawford & Alyssa Moronta & Anthony Soto, \$530,000, 53 Pembroke Dr  
Frank Moran Jr, Daniel Lopez & Beatro Valdez & Ayelina Roman, \$628,000, 40-42 Jennings St  
JTS Realty & Thomas Duffy Tr, Bay Flow LLC, \$425,000, 501-503 Andover St  
Menery Properties LLC, Kerrin Duffy, \$322,500, 10 Spring St  
Van Phung, Jose Reyes & Laura

Rodriguez, \$350,000, 3 Hanlon Ct  
RCLXML Conduit Street Realty Tr & Robert Landry Tr, Diane Rocheteau, \$650,000, 6-8 Conduit St  
SCLR Realty LLC, Plover Capital LLC, \$2,400,000, 138-154 South Broadway  
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Jesus Aquino, Gusatvo Ramirez, \$405,000, 161 Olive Ave  
Krystal Parra, Matilde Parra, \$300,000, 87 Foster St  
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# BETTER PHONE *STONED!!!*

DO YOU NEED A STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
WHO'S HIGH ON THC? BETTER PHONE STONED!!!

THC IS A PSYCHOACTIVE DRUG! MARIJUANA CONTAINS THC.

## JIM McCARTY:

- \* PUSHED FOR RECREATIONAL  
POT SALES IN METHUEN EVEN  
AFTER VOTERS SAID NO, TWICE!!!
- \* REGULARLY USES MARIJUANA



## JIM McCARTY:

- \* DOESN'T HAVE A JOB;
- \* DOESN'T PAY A MORTGAGE;
- \* ISN'T A METHUEN TAXPAYER

## JIM McCARTY:

- \* VOTED TO VIOLATE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS  
TO GIVE A RELATIVE A CITY JOB;
- \* CO\$T TAXPAYER\$ THOU\$AND\$ IN LAWSUITS
- \* FORCED METHUEN TO WASTE HUNDREDS OF  
THOUSAND\$ CREATING AN UNECESSARY POSITION!

METHUEN AND LAWRENCE NEED A STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
WHO'S HIGH ON MEETING THE RESIDENTS NEEDS... NOT HIGH ON THC!!!

VOTERS,

ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2022,

REACH HIGHER FOR A STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# SAY NO TO JIM McCARTY



# YE GAY O’LE VALLEY: America, The Land of the Penis

Dani B. Langevin  
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

If you do not house a penis between your legs here in America, your rights are being chipped away. If you do not have a sexual attraction to the opposite sex, your rights are going to be nonexistent. Since Roe v Wade has been overturned, the penis’ (and vaginas they have beaten into submission) find you to be abhorrent and a threat to the “American Way,” if you are anything but white, straight and male. Yes, “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,” but if they are anything but white, male, and straight, let’s destroy any manner of humanity we may feel toward you and annihilate you.

The Supreme Court of the United States, an institution that is supposed to represent and protect the rights of all Americans, has decided that women have no rights over their own body. Men have the right to rape at will but, women have no right to decide what enters their body and what stays in their body. A parasite implanted by yet another white, straight male rapist inside a female host and forced to have it suck the life out of her for 10 months. Yes, you biological moron, women are pregnant for 10 months not 9. White straight men making decisions for all women means ten-year-old girls will be raped, impregnated and forced to give birth. These brilliant “men” were shocked and, quite literally, in disbelief to hear that this very thing came to fruition. Their ignorance and stupidity prevented them from embracing the horrifying reality of the situation and claimed it to be false because it didn’t fit their narrative. And their narrative is forced Christianity, forced pregnancy, forced sex, and forced subjugation. And it all began with white, straight celibate priests who never had a wife or daughter.

The fear of the alt-right is that their way of life is going to be destroyed. And what is their way of life? Well, men are men

and women are women according to some very strict and very narrow guidelines. You must be white. You must be straight, and you must be Christian. If you are male, you’ve never had to fight for any rights-ever. You were always allowed to marry, own property, become educated, vote (yes I know at one point you had to own land), own land, file for divorce, acquire inheritance, be granted custody of your children, take out a loan, apply for a credit card, serve in the military, travel unaccompanied and many other rights that every other human being have had to fight for. You have not been told that you’re too fat, too skinny, too old, too young, too short, too tall, unattractive, unf\*\*\*able, hysterical, emotional, too sexy, not sexy enough, shut up you don’t know what you’re talking about, you asked for it, cock tease, called babe, whistled at or told, “You all trying to stimulate me?” when a man smells your perfume (actually happened to me). You have certainly never been force f+++ked and then forced to build a blood sucking leech in your body.

(No, I don’t think fetus’ are leeches. They are however, leeches when forced.

Because men can’t get pregnant or breastfeed, their time is not monopolized by ten months of pregnancy which can include morning sickness, gestational diabetes, high blood pressure, preeclampsia, preterm labor, depression and anxiety, pregnancy loss/miscarriage and still birth. These are things that are very real for an adult woman. A child who is pregnant can experience all of these things including: low birth weight, anemia, higher infant mortality, and possible greater risk of cephalopelvic dispro- portion\* (the baby’s head is wider than the pelvic opening). I was twenty-six when I gave birth. I was a full-grown woman. The doctor had to cut my vagina with scissors to make room for my daughter. It was enough and she tore me even more. Bet men didn’t know that happens. Many men feel their responsibility ended when they got you pregnant. So,

men were able to organize and create rules and laws that benefited them the most and women secondarily, if at all, while women were pregnant and taking care of a nursing baby. And they continue to do so. What’s even more frightening is that they’ve convinced many women to agree with them. They’ve verbally and physically beaten women down for centuries that, for some women, they believe the bullsh!t rhetoric they’ve been fed: that abortion is murder and not actually lifesaving medical procedures for girls and women. Those women who have bought into this male narrative are simply male’s slaves.

Let’s get some facts out there. Approximately 50% of women report getting pregnant on some form of birth control. That’s half of all of the women in the world. And according to the CDC:

Almost 3 million women in the U.S. experienced RRP (rape related pregnancy) during their lifetime. (3 million more children in foster care)

The prevalence of RRP was similar across racial and ethnic groups (i.e., Hispanic, White non-Hispanic, Black non-Hispanic, and other non-Hispanic. Which means you can drop your racist views of rapists).

About 18 million women have experienced vaginal rape in their lifetime. Women who were raped by a current or former intimate partner were more likely to report RRP (26%) compared to those raped by an acquaintance (5.2%) or a stranger (6.9%).

Of women who were raped by an intimate partner, 30% experienced a form of reproductive coercion by the same partner. Specifically, about 20% reported that their partner had tried to get them pregnant when they did not want to or tried to stop them from using birth control. About 23% reported their partner refused to use a condom.

Women raped by an intimate partner who reported RRP were significantly more likely to have experienced reproductive coercion compared to women who were raped by an intimate partner but did not become pregnant.

Breathe those in for a minute. “Specifically, about 20% reported that their partner had tried to get them pregnant when they did not want to or tried to stop them from using birth control.” That would

mean that men, who can’t get pregnant, are forcing, coercing or blackmailing women into becoming pregnant against their will. When are men going to be held accountable?

I am a high school teacher. I make it clear to my students that my room is a safe place, and I am a safe person to confide in. There have been many teenage girls that have come to me with the same story. “He kept begging and begging. I didn’t say no but, I didn’t say yes.” And the boy got what he wanted; to please himself without any regard for his partner’s wants, needs or fears. EVERY one of those boys should be prosecuted for sexual assault. EVERYONE! Unless you hear, “Yes,” it’s a NO! Parents teach your boys to respect themselves and the girls and women they are with. Some of them might be your daughters. And don’t think you’ve taught your daughters how to stave off an unwanted rapist. I’ve talked to and studied the result of polls conducted with teenage girls and women in their twenties. Many have admitted that, as confident as they are, they often times freeze and become unable to advocate for themselves during a sexual assault because of the fear of being hurt or killed. So, they subject themselves to the assault to avoid death. Isn’t that comforting.

White, straight men must be voted out of office. Most white, straight men are only looking out for white, straight men. Over three million will continue to rape us and our daughters. It is my opinion that all boys should have a blood sample taken at birth and placed into a database. When a woman is raped, hopefully she will go to a hospital where they can retrieve a DNA swab of her rapist and BANG-he’s in jail. I don’t see any reason why this should be a problem when ten-year-old girls can get pregnant from adult men and be forced to give birth. Men will continue to lie to you and tell you that these policies are for the protection of the “American way” or the “American family” or to preserve “American Values.” It’s code for let’s get rid of anyone who is not white and straight and if they are female, let’s force them back into the kitchen and bedroom and out of the workplace.

You know that saying, “Take it like a man?” I would if it were offered to me. ◇

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